

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 L-03 INR-07 SS-15 SP-02 PM-04

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /054 W

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R 141523Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8178

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 0789

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, BF, US

SUBJ: FACILITIES NEGOTIATIONS

1. IN A LUNCHEON CONVERSATION MAY 13, 1976, WITH T. BASWELL DONALDSON, GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK, DONALDSON MENTIONED A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH THE PRIMIN IN WHICH THE PRIMIN EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH OUR QUID OFFER. DONALDSON SAID THAT THE PRIMIN HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED THAT OUR INITIAL OFFER A COUPLE YEARS AGO WAS INSULTING. NOW, ACCORDING TO DONALDSON, THE PROBLEM WHICH THE PRIMIN HAD WAS WITH THE IN-ADEQUACY OF THE BRITISH OFFER.

2. COMMENT: DONALDSON IS VERY CLOSE TO THE PRIMIN. AT THE SAME TIME, I RATHER DOUBT THAT HE HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE DETAILS OF THE FACILITIES ARRANGEMENTS AND I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT HE DOES NOT KNOW THE DETAILS OF OUR OFFER. ACCORDINGLY, I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO APPRAISE HIS COMMENT ATTRIBUTED TO THE PRIMIN CONCERNING THE INADEQUACIES OF THE U.K. OFFER. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE HEARD ANY SUCH ALLEGATION, OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT MENNELL HAS TOLD ME ON A COUPLE OF OCCASIONS THAT THE GCOB HAD REQUESTED AN INCREASE IN THE BRITISH CONTRIBUTION, WHICH WAS FLATLY REJECTED. IN FACT, I BELIEVE MENNELL ALLUDED TO THIS AT THE TIME OF OUR WASHINGTON MEETINGS. WHETHER, AS A RESULT, THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT DISSATISFACTION WITH THE BRITISH OFFER AND, IF SO, WHETHER THIS IS WHAT IS HOLDING UP MATTERS, I DO NOT KNOW. I HOPE DONALDSON IS RIGHT ABOUT PRIMIN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD OUR OFFER*

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WEISS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NASSAU00789
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760187-0295
From: NASSAU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760554/aaaabtqv.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUL 2004 by saccheem>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FACILITIES NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: MARR, BF, US, (DONALDSON, T BASWELL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006